

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO: 2000-294-T

IN RE: )  
Application of Grand Strand )  
Moving & Storage, LLC )  
Application to Amend It's )  
Class E (Household Goods) )  
Certificate of Public )  
Convenience and Necessity )  
(to include statewide )  
authority) )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

**THE DEPOSITION OF  
D. J. HUCKS**

Tuesday, January 21, 2014  
1:59 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

The deposition of D. J. HUCKS, taken at the law offices of Richardson Plowden, located at 2103 Farlow Street, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on Tuesday, January 21, 2014.

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(843) 248-5252

**APPEARANCES:**

E. B. Davis Inabnit, Jr., Esquire  
RICHARDSON PLOWDEN  
2103 Farlow Street  
Post Office Box 3646  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina 29578

**-Via telephone-**

Shannon B. Hudson, Esquire  
OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF  
1401 Main Street, Suite 900  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

**COURT REPORTER:**

Alice S. Nelson  
Verbatim Court Reporter

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## EXHIBITS

(No exhibits were marked during this deposition.)

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## **STIPULATIONS**

The deposition will be taken before Alice S. Nelson, a Notary Public and Verbatim Court Reporter in and for the State of South Carolina.

It is stipulated and agreed that this deposition is being taken for the purpose of discovery, for possible use during the trial, and for all other purposes permitted under the applicable rules of procedure.

It is stipulated and agreed between counsel and the above witness that the reading and signing of the above deposition be, and the same, are hereby waived.

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1 D. J. HUCKS, HAVING BEEN DULY SWORN, WAS DEPOSED  
2 AS FOLLOWS:

3 **EXAMINATION**

4 **BY MR. INABNIT:**

5 Q: Mr. Hucks, my name is Davis Inabnit. I know we  
6 have met, and I have asked you to come here today  
7 to give a deposition in a matter that is before  
8 the Public Service Commission for Grand Strand  
9 Moving and Storage, where they're seeking a Class  
10 E Certificate, or to change the scope of their  
11 Class E Certificate so that they can transport  
12 household goods statewide. If you could, just  
13 for the record, I wanted to let you know, as in  
14 other depositions, if you need to take a break or  
15 anything like that, feel free to let us know.  
16 We'll be glad to accommodate you. I don't expect  
17 we'll be here too long today, but if you would,  
18 just ---

19 MS. HUDSON: IS THE PHONE ON MUTE? I  
20 DON'T KNOW IF YOU CAN HEAR  
21 ME, BUT I CAN'T HEAR  
22 ANYTHING.

23 MR. INABNIT: OKAY. I APOLOGIZE. I'LL  
24 BRING THE PHONE AND TRY TO  
25 SPEAK UP A LITTLE BIT. I

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1 APOLOGIZE.

2 Q: Basically if you need to take a break for any  
3 reason, please let us know. We'll be glad to  
4 accommodate you. I don't expect we will have you  
5 here for too terribly long. But, if you would,  
6 first for us, could you please say your full name  
7 for the record? Because what we are going to be  
8 doing is sending a copy of this transcript up to  
9 Columbia to the Public Service Commission.

10 A: My name is Bobby Darrell Hucks, Jr.

11 Q: Okay. And, Mr. Hucks, you've been asked to  
12 testify today, and what that means is basically  
13 I'm going to ask you a series of questions, and I  
14 feel sure Shannon, who is on the phone, who I  
15 will submit to you, she works for the Office of  
16 Regulatory Staff for the State, she may also have  
17 some questions of you as well; is that okay?

18 A: Yes, sir.

19 Q: Okay. If you would, please tell us, for the  
20 record, what is, what do you do for a living?

21 A: I'm a third party contractor for all of the  
22 movers in, in the world. We work within South  
23 Carolina and North Carolina regions, and we  
24 handle special products for the movers that are  
25 doing work in the North Carolina, South Carolina

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1 areas.

2 Q: And when you say you're a third party contractor,  
3 what company do you work with?

4 A: The name of my business is Carolina Services &  
5 Crating.

6 Q: Okay. And what type of third party vendor are  
7 you, like when you say the name of your company  
8 is moving and crating, what does that entail?

9 A: We handle the products that the movers aren't  
10 comfortable with. We come in and we custom crate  
11 onsite for the mover. The mover contracts us and  
12 we disconnect, reconnect appliances for, for the  
13 movers, disassemble, reassemble any type of  
14 furniture that the mover's not familiar with. We  
15 do playground equipment, pool tables, grandfather  
16 clocks, grand pianos, any type of hoisting  
17 services, anything that a mover can't handle with  
18 their staff, or that their insurance will, will  
19 not allow them to.

20 Q: And would you agree that basically, y'all handle  
21 specialty items or things that movers don't want  
22 to have liability ---

23 A: It's a ---

24 Q: --- or don't have the means to crate or ship  
25 things without it being properly packaged?

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1 A: That's exactly right. We crate it and we take  
2 liability of it until it gets to its final, final  
3 destination. Depending on if the, I mean, if we,  
4 if the mover, I mean, if the mover doesn't drop  
5 it or, and, and we can't prove that it's, it's  
6 not their liability, then we take liability of  
7 it.

8 Q: Okay.

9 A: And they, they just like to throw the liability  
10 on us, on, on the high value products that, that,  
11 that need special attention.

12 Q: And how long have you been doing, either working  
13 with Carolina Services & Crating, or worked in  
14 that profession?

15 A: I've been doing third-party for almost ten years  
16 now.

17 Q: With the same business?

18 A: Yes.

19 Q: Okay. Are you the owner of Carolina Services &  
20 Crating?

21 A: I am.

22 Q: Do you go and hands-on, and when I say hands-on,  
23 do you actually go out and crate and disassemble  
24 and reassemble items that your company moves, or  
25 do you strictly do that through employees of



1           yours?

2       A: We have employees and I do it myself. I'm hands-  
3       on. There's so many things out there that need  
4       so much expertise that, that I need to be on site  
5       sometimes. But, I, I would say that I'm in the  
6       office now more than I am, then I have been in  
7       the past, but I, I built, I built the business  
8       from, from the ground up working for myself and,  
9       and by myself, until the, the demand came that  
10      needed to expand.

11      Q: Okay. Prior to running Carolina Services &  
12      Crating, what did you do?

13      A: I was in the relocation business. I, I was,  
14      worked for several moving companies throughout  
15      Myrtle Beach, Conway, Sumter, even down in the  
16      Charleston areas. I, I worked for, I started  
17      out, after I graduated high school, working for  
18      Anderson Transfer as a, as just a regular  
19      furniture mover, and worked my way up, and I was,  
20      I was running a, a company in Sumter, and it was  
21      a, a sister company of Anderson Transfer. It was  
22      Anderson Transfer & Storage, and I was running  
23      that company plus a, Harkins Moving & Storage in  
24      Sumter, as well.

25      Q: Okay. So is it fair to say that you're pretty

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1 familiar with the moving industry as far as what  
2 Grand Strand Moving & Storage is seeking to  
3 accomplish or what their job is?

4 A: Oh, yeah, I'm very familiar with the, with the,  
5 each, each aspect of, of the moving industry,  
6 even down to things that the movers aren't,  
7 aren't familiar with. I'm, I'm familiar with,  
8 with anything intrastate, interstate, military  
9 tariffs, you name it. And if it's got to do with  
10 the moving industry, I'm familiar with it.

11 Q: Okay. And I believe you said you worked in the  
12 Conway, Myrtle Beach area before. Have you ever  
13 had the opportunity to work for or with Grand  
14 Strand Moving & Storage?

15 A: I've worked for Grand Strand Moving & Storage.  
16 They've contracted our company to do different  
17 things over the past, the things that they can't  
18 handle, some of the high valued stuff that needs  
19 to be crated. There's a big demand for these new  
20 frontload washing machines, the guys, they need  
21 to be, they need to be disconnected and a  
22 shipping kit needs to be installed in them for,  
23 for the relocation, or there's a chance of damage  
24 occurring, and, and we have to keep so many kits  
25 in, in stock to accommodate these, these

1 services, and so, so we're just a one stop shop.  
2 When they call, we come right in and disconnect  
3 the frontload washers and secure the, the drum  
4 for transit, and, and then the movers move it.  
5 And Grand Strand, they, they contract us to do  
6 that a lot.

7 Q: Okay. Where is your normal service area? Where  
8 do you normally work out of in your current  
9 business?

10 A: We're based out of, out of Conway, and we work  
11 from all of, all the coastal regions. All the  
12 way from Hilton Head, west of 95, I would say up  
13 to Fayetteville, and go east to, maybe to the  
14 Virginia line, so all of the, all of the coastal  
15 regions of North and South Carolina.

16 Q: Okay. Have you ever had to crate or package  
17 anything that's going elsewhere, other places  
18 further west in the state?

19 A: Oh, yes. Yes. The, we, we do -- we work for,  
20 for, like I said, all the movers and we, I mean,  
21 any, any, anything, whether it's going to, if  
22 it's going state side or whether it's going  
23 within the State of South Carolina, we, we handle  
24 it all, or if it's going overseas. We do a lot  
25 of overseas crating as well.

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1 Q: Okay. How often are you normally involved or  
2 have to deal with a moving company such as Grand  
3 Strand Moving and Storage, or a company that has  
4 a Class E Certificate to transport household  
5 goods?

6 A: Well, not a lot, because there's not a lot of, a  
7 lot of those guys out there. There, I think  
8 there, there might be more than I'm aware of  
9 across the state, but the, those type of guys  
10 they, they don't use us as much as probably they  
11 should, and so I'm just aware of the ones that,  
12 that I know and the ones that contract me as a,  
13 as a local vendor.

14 Q: Okay. Are you ever contacted directly by a, say  
15 a customer who needs to have their stuff crated,  
16 or is it usually by a moving company or van lines  
17 that need you to come?

18 A: Ninety-five percent of the time it's the movers  
19 that, that contact us.

20 Q: Okay.

21 A: So we, we work directly for the movers and the  
22 other five percent are the, are the customers  
23 that want us to come in and work directly for  
24 them.

25 Q: Okay. What type of customers would that be,

1           generally?

2       A: It's the customers that are shipping stuff or  
3       needing stuff shipped. We're not a shipper.  
4       We're just a crater. But if they were trying to  
5       ship something to, to a family in another state  
6       or, or even within the state, they, and if they  
7       needed it custom crated then they would call us  
8       in and they would call their, their shipper or a,  
9       van lines, or, or just whoever it would be to, to  
10      move the item, whether it be a family heirloom  
11      or, or a, or a motorcycle.

12      Q: Okay. In your experience with crating and  
13      packaging, disassembly, reassembly of different  
14      items, household goods, do you ever have an  
15      opportunity or do you ever get to a jobsite and,  
16      and find out that, or find that there's a need  
17      for a moving company that has certain expertise  
18      or that can offer better services than what the  
19      people may ---

20      A: Well, I see a lot of companies that, and, and I,  
21      because I worked my way up throughout the, the  
22      channels, through the moving business. I, and I  
23      see a lot of movers that are in a, a not  
24      comparable of, of moving these household goods.  
25      I see, I see some good ones and I see some bad

1           ones. They, I see a need for, for more good  
2           moving companies throughout.

3           Q: Do you ever have the chance, or do you ever have  
4           some of these customers where you're directly  
5           contacted, do they ever ask you who do you  
6           recommend to move certain items?

7           A: Yeah, I get that. I get people that calls us  
8           sometimes that think, think that we are movers  
9           and, and I have to refer them to companies that I  
10          know that can do the job and, and are going to  
11          handle their stuff to, to the best of their  
12          ability. So, I mean, I just have to, I have to  
13          give them companies that, that I know that, that,  
14          like we're stating here, that, that has the  
15          authority to do it, whether it's intrastate or  
16          interstate.

17          Q: And if it's somebody out of -- Grand Strand  
18          Moving, and I'll tell you, Grand Strand Moving  
19          and Storage, their current scope or ability right  
20          now is limited to Horry, Georgetown and Marion.  
21          If it's someone out of those areas, would you  
22          have to try to find someone if someone called you  
23          who could possibly handle that, or handle that  
24          move, or how would that normally take place?

25          A: Well, I mean, under their authority they can't, I

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1 know they can't handle it, so I have to, I mean,  
2 there's very, there's very few that, that have  
3 state authority that, that I'm aware of or that I  
4 have any type of relationship with. And, I mean,  
5 I just think that there's, there's more, there's  
6 a need for them, and, and others, as well, to  
7 have statewide authority to, to handle it. And I  
8 know Grand Strand is a, is a good company, I  
9 mean, I've worked with, with their sister  
10 companies in the past, as well. They're,  
11 they're, they're, they're -- They have the  
12 expertise to do it.

13 Q: And you know they've been in business for a good  
14 while?

15 A: Well, Grand Strand's been in business, I'd say,  
16 12 years, 13 years, somewhere around in there  
17 now.

18 Q: Where do you see a large need in your line of  
19 work for additional movers, as far as, is there  
20 any particular things that you're aware of that,  
21 and when I say that, any types of industry or  
22 businesses that are going to create a larger need  
23 in the near future for moving?

24 A: Well, I, I see ninety percent of, of, of the  
25 third-party industry and that's, that's what we

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1 do is, is corporate relocation, and corporate  
2 relocation is, is these larger companies moving  
3 their employees around to, to different  
4 locations. There are other areas where their  
5 companies are. A big one in the State of South  
6 Carolina is Boeing. Boeing now is, they're  
7 bringing so many people in from all parts of the,  
8 of the country, in the world. I've seen a lot of  
9 it in South Carolina. Now, there's people moving  
10 from Spartanburg, Greenville, even Florence.  
11 I've seen some Augusta people coming in to the  
12 Charleston, Summerville, Goose Creek areas, and,  
13 and, and that's where the, that mover's going to  
14 need statewide authority to handle that type of  
15 move.

16 Q: From someone in South Carolina moving to another  
17 location in South Carolina?

18 A: That's correct.

19 Q: And do you feel that need is currently being, and  
20 I don't know how, a good way to put it, but is  
21 being sufficiently or adequately met by the  
22 current, I guess if you want to call it, number  
23 or amount of companies that are being or that  
24 have that authority?

25 A: Well, I think there's a, there's probably, I



1 mean, you, I know there's, they're out there  
2 because the people are getting moved. I, I don't  
3 exactly -- there, there's a need for good moving  
4 companies, I can say that.

5 Q: And do you know if the ones that are moving some  
6 of those people, are there probably some of them  
7 that are moving people unbeknownst to the,  
8 whoever the person is that's being moved, that  
9 are moving items without proper certification?

10 A: Oh, we've been fighting it, fighting, fighting  
11 that forever, and, and I know the Public Service  
12 Commission tries to help as well. When, when,  
13 when I, when I was in the, back when I was  
14 working as a mover it was, it was a nonstop  
15 battle, because you've got, you've got one moving  
16 company and then you've got ten Two Men in a  
17 Trucks, and I'm not stating that Two Men in a  
18 Truck now, I know they're, probably got statewide  
19 authority, maybe, but there's so many guys out  
20 there that are just, they're, they're not  
21 authorized to, to have any type of moving  
22 authority.

23 Q: Do you believe that Grand Strand moving and  
24 Storage would be capable of handling statewide  
25 moves or intrastate moves between two locations

1 in South Carolina, based on your experience  
2 working with them and also with customers and  
3 seeing what their needs are?

4 A: Based on my experience, yes, they, they're,  
5 they're, again, they're, they're a good company  
6 and they, they've got a lot of, of expertise  
7 within that company, in that company. They've  
8 got the, the equipment to do it. They're,  
9 they're a strong company. They're not going to  
10 just, they're not a fly-by-night company, what I  
11 call that, the ones that we have problems with  
12 and the ones we have had problems with over the  
13 past that are, that are not authorized to do  
14 these intrastate moves.

15 Q: Okay. If we can take just a half second break, I  
16 just want to look over my notes real quick and  
17 see if there's anything else that I need to cover  
18 real quick.

19 \*\*\*\*\*OFF THE RECORD\*\*\*\*\*

20 (ON THE RECORD)

21 MR. INABNIT CONTINUES:

22 Q: All right. Mr. Hucks, in general, do you think  
23 that there's a sufficient market that could  
24 support an additional mover that would have  
25 authority, statewide, to move items from other

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1 parts of the state within the State of South  
2 Carolina?

3 A: Yes, I think, I think we could use a lot of, more  
4 expertise and, and there's a -- the moving  
5 industry is, it's just fallen off so bad, it's,  
6 the quality of, of movers out there has, has  
7 decreased tremendously, and we need more  
8 expertise out there.

9 Q: Have you ever had an opportunity to refer anyone  
10 to Grand Strand Moving & Storage?

11 A: I have.

12 Q: And why did you do that?

13 A: Well, I knew that they were a reputable company  
14 and I, I just think that, that they were the  
15 mover for that type of move, I mean, that, that  
16 they were asking about. And even a, I've, I  
17 mean, I've recommended them to do interstate  
18 moves as well, and I know that they have to run  
19 that under a different authority as, maybe  
20 through, because I know that, I think they're an  
21 agent for Allied Van Lines.

22 Q: Okay. And those moves that you refer people for,  
23 are those for household goods or is that for like  
24 a commercial type?

25 A: All household goods.

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1 Q: Okay. I don't believe I have any further  
2 questions.

3 **EXAMINATION**

4 **BY MS. HUDSON:**

5 Q: I've got, Mr. Hucks, I have a few questions.

6 A: Okay.

7 Q: Is now a good time to begin?

8 A: Yes.

9 Q: I'm going to go ahead and apologize upfront. I  
10 may be repeating some of these same exact  
11 questions, and if I do, I'm sorry.

12 A: Okay.

13 Q: Would you state your business address and  
14 telephone number?

15 A: My business address is 6720 Elbow, E-L-B-O-W,  
16 Road, and that's in Conway, 29527. My telephone  
17 number is 843-397-4038.

18 Q: Does this telephone number go to your offices?

19 A: It does.

20 Q: Okay. And that Elbow Road address, is that a  
21 physical location?

22 A: It is.

23 Q: Okay. Do you have a website?

24 A: I do. It's carolinaservicesandcrating.com.

25 Q: You mentioned that you're a third-party

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1 contractor, who do you mostly contract with?

2 A: Well, I'm my own business, as well as I  
3 subcontract for larger, nationwide third-party  
4 companies throughout the, throughout the nation,  
5 but I'm my own contractor, as well, and we work  
6 for the local movers within the state of North  
7 Carolina, South Carolina.

8 Q: Do you have any professional certifications?

9 A: No.

10 Q: How long have you had Carolina Services and  
11 Crating?

12 A: Almost ten years.

13 Q: How long have you been in the moving industry?

14 A: Almost 20.

15 Q: And what is your position at Carolina Services  
16 and Crating?

17 A: I'm the owner.

18 Q: How do you transport the items that you crate?

19 A: I don't transport them. The, the movers  
20 transport them.

21 Q: Okay. How many moves, or crating moves do you  
22 assist with a month?

23 A: Well, as well as you know, I mean, this, the  
24 moving industry is, is a seasonal thing, so  
25 sometimes I, I probably can do up to a hundred a

1 month.

2 Q: Grand Strand Movers currently has authority in  
3 the low country and they're seeking statewide  
4 authority to do moves across the state, do you  
5 think that there is enough business for them to  
6 do statewide moves?

7 A: Yes, I think there's, there's plenty of business  
8 out there. If, if the -- If we, if we could get  
9 these, the mom and pops movers off of our backs,  
10 off of their backs, they're not on my back  
11 anymore, I mean, I'm out of that, that end of it  
12 anymore, and I think there's, I think there's  
13 plenty of room.

14 Q: You mentioned earlier that you would, I think you  
15 testified that you would recommend Grand Strand  
16 Movers, do you have a list of companies that you  
17 make referrals to?

18 A: Just the companies that, that I do work for, and  
19 Grand Strand is, is one of the companies that I  
20 do work for in, you said, the low country, yes.

21 Q: I misspoke, I should have said the Grand Strand  
22 ---

23 A: Yeah, well, well, I consider some of that the low  
24 country, too, but yeah, the Grand Strand. But I,  
25 Grand Strand doesn't have authority in, in what

1           you're calling the low country, Charleston, area.

2       Q: Right, yeah.

3       A: But that's, that's where it's needed, in  
4       Charleston and, because that's where all this, I  
5       mean, Boeing is the biggest, is the biggest  
6       company within the state right now, and it's,  
7       and, and also, General Electric, and that's where  
8       I see my most of the relocation, corporate  
9       relocation.

10      Q: When did you first help Grand Strand Movers?

11      MR. INABNIT:                   CAN YOU CLARIFY THAT, AS  
12                                       FAR AS HELP, ARE YOU  
13                                       TALKING ABOUT ---

14      Q: Crating.

15      MR. INABNIT:                   --- CONTRACT WITH THEM, OR  
16                                       WHEN DID HE USE TO WORK  
17                                       WITH SISTER COMPANIES?

18      Q: No, when did you first assist Grand Strand Moving  
19       with doing some crating?

20      A: Oh, since day one, since they were first in  
21       business, whenever, and I'm thinking it's, I  
22       mean, I, I was kind of, probably beating around,  
23       kind of doing it, in the crating before I started  
24       my business, working for them doing, doing onsite  
25       crating.

1 Q: I asked you about how do you move the items  
2 earlier, only because on your website it, you  
3 state that you handled residential crating and  
4 shipping.

5 A: Well, I don't, I don't do any shipping. I do,  
6 we, we can -- I can call and have it shipped.

7 Q: I see, okay.

8 A: I don't have any, I don't even have, I don't even  
9 have a truck to ship anything.

10 Q: Have you ever appeared before the Public Service  
11 Commission here in Columbia?

12 A: No.

13 Q: I think that's all my questions. If you give me  
14 a moment, let me be sure. Are you familiar with  
15 Grand Strand's rates?

16 A: Not now I'm not. I, I used to be as far as the  
17 state tariffs I, I'm not at all. I don't even  
18 know where they're at now as far as Two Men in a  
19 Truck or Three Men in a Truck or any kind, I  
20 don't know anything about them anymore. I mean,  
21 I could . . .

22 Q: Okay. Have you ever heard any complaints on  
23 Grand Strand Moving?

24 A: No, I, not directly towards them, no.

25 Q: What have you heard?

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1       A: Well, you get, you get complaints from movers  
2             and, and that's -- I, I, I don't think that  
3             there's, there's any move that's ever went  
4             perfect, and, and I've just heard from people and  
5             it's not directly to them, it's just local  
6             movers. It's not, I mean, I haven't heard  
7             anything bad about Grand Strand Moving and  
8             Storage.

9       Q: Okay. Mr. Hucks, thanks for answering my  
10            questions and I appreciate your time today.  
11            Thank you.

12       A: Thank you.

13               (The deposition concluded at 2:30 p.m.)  
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## **CERTIFICATE**

This is to certify that the foregoing deposition of **D. J. HUCKS**, consisting of **TWENTY-SIX (26)** pages, is a true and correct transcript of the testimony given by said deponent after first being duly sworn; said deposition was reported by method of stenomask with backup. This transcript may contain quoted material; said material is transcribed as read or quoted by the speaker.

I further certify that I am neither employed by nor related to any of the parties in this matter nor their counsel; nor do I have any interest, financial or otherwise, in the outcome of the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal this **24th** day of **JANUARY, 2014**.

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Alice S. Nelson  
Verbatim Court Reporter  
Notary in and for the State of  
South Carolina  
My Commission Expires: 07-26-16

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